

REMARKS

Claims 1-286 are pending in the above-identified application, and were rejected. With this Amendment, claims 1, 2, 4, 71, 140, and 141 were amended, claims 287 and 288 were added, and claims 6-70, 72-139, and 142-286 were cancelled. Accordingly, claims 1-5, 71, 140, 141, 287, and 288 are at issue.

I. Objection To Claims

Claims 129-131 were objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(c) as being in improper form. With this Amendment, Applicants have cancelled claims 129-131. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this objection.

II. 35 U.S.C. § 112 Indefiniteness Rejection of Claims

Claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 32 and 244 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Applicants respectfully submit that Applicants' amendment to claims 1, 2, and 4 obviates this rejection. Claims 7, 8, 32 and 244 have been cancelled. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

III. 35 U.S.C. § 102 Anticipation Rejection of Claims

Claims 1-4, 6-24, 27-29, 31, 33-40, 45-106, 108-126, 128, 132-140, 142-153, 156-159, 162-183, 185, 187, 190-201, 203, 205-242, and 244-284 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Linehan et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,495,533). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

In Claim 1, as amended, the management apparatus prepares a key file storing encrypted content key data and encrypted usage control policy data indicating a content of rights such as usage permission conditions of said content data. Linehan et al. neither discloses nor suggests this limitation. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1, and claims 2-4 that depend from claim 1, are allowable over Linehan et al.

For reasons similar to those discussed above with regard to claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 71 and 140 are also allowable over Linehan et al. Claims 6-24, 27-29, 31, 33-40, 45-70, 72-106, 108-126, 128, 132-139, 142-153, 156-159, 162-183, 185, 187, 190-201, 203, 205-242, and 244-284 have been cancelled. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

IV. 35 U.S.C. § 103 Obviousness Rejection of Claims

Claims 5, 25-26, 29-30, 41-44, 107, 141, 154-155, 160-161, 184, 186, 188, 189, 202, 204, 285-286 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Linehan et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,495,533) in view of Kravitz et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,738,905). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

As discussed above, Linehan et al. neither discloses nor suggests that the management apparatus prepares a key file storing encrypted content key data and encrypted usage control policy data indicating a content of rights such as usage permission conditions of said content data. Thus, it would not have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify Linehan et al. with the disclosure of Kravitz et al. to derive claim 5 or claim 141, both of which include this limitation. Claims 25-26, 29-30, 41-44, 107, 154-155, 160-161, 184, 186,


188, 189, 202, 204, 285-286 have been cancelled. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

V. Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that all claims are clearly allowable over the cited prior art, and respectfully request early and favorable notification to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

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